

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 02078 251518Z

46

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 DEAE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-05 TRSE-00

NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 AID-05 SS-15 L-02 PM-03 DODE-00

H-02 EB-07 SP-02 INRE-00 IGA-01 IOE-00 /077 W

----- 090283

O 251440Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1640

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2078

BANGKOK FOR AMBASSADOR VANCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, LA, UN

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS - POSSIBLE LAO ATTEMPT ENTER LICIT OPIUM
EXPORT MARKET

REF: VIENTIANE 2056

1. IN VIEW LAO GOVT'S RESPONSIBILITIES AS PARTY TO SINGLE
CONVENTION AND INCB'S DUTIES TO REGULATE LICIT EXPORT UNDER
CONVENTION, WE SUGGEST THAT BEST TACK MIGHT BE FOR AMEMBASSY
VIENTIANE TO SUGGEST THAT PGNU, BEFORE TAKING ANY DECISION,
SHOULD CONSULT INCB SECRETARIAT GENEVA REGARDING LAO DESIRE
ENTER LICIT EXPORT MARKET. WE HAVE ALERTED INCB SECRETARIAT
(DEPUTY SECRETARY STEPCZYNSKI SINCE DITTERT IS NOT IN TOWN)
AND THEY WILL BE PREPARED RENDER LEGAL OPINION.

2. WHILE THIS IS OVERSIMPLIFICATION OF SITUATION, POSITION
IN GENERAL IS THAT LAOS, AS PARTY TO SINGLE CONVENTION, SHOULD
REFER MATTER TO INCB. BOARD CAN AUTHORIZE EXPORT UP TO FIVE
TONS. LAOS WOULD HAVE OBTAIN ECOSOC'S APPROVAL TO EXPORT
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MORE THAN FIVE TONS. ECOSOC WOULD ACT IN LIGHT RECOMMENDATION

OF INCB WHICH WOULD AMOST CERTAINLY RECOMMEND AGAINST LAOS
BEING AUTHORIZED LEGALLY EXPORT ON GROUND LAOS HAS DEMONSTRATED
IT CANNOT CONTROL OPIUM PRODUCTION AND THEREFORE CANNOT CARRY
OUT OBLIGATION LAID DOWN IN SINGLE CONVENTION TO REFRAIN FROM
PRODUCING IF THIS LIKELY INCREASE ILLICIT TRAFFIC.

3. SOME TIME AGO WE SUGGESTED TO DITTERT THAT PROFESSOR
REUTER, PRESIDENT OF INCB, SHOULD ARRANGE EARLY VISIT TO
VIENTIANE WITH VIEW DETERRING LAO GOVT FROM ATTEMPTING ENTER
LICIT EXPORT MARKET. UNHAPPILY FOR NUMBER OF REASONS REUTER
HAS NOT YET BEEN ABLE ARRANGE SUCH VISIT ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND
HE STILL HAS THIS IN MIND. DALE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

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